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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 3 March 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I regret to inform you that, since my last letter to you and the convening of the emergency meeting of the Security Council on Saturday, 1 March 2008, the Palestinian death toll has continued to rise as a result of the military onslaught unleashed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

Recovery efforts in the town of Jabaliya in the northern Gaza Strip have revealed that, on Saturday, 1 March 2008, alone a total of 70 Palestinians were killed by Israel, the occupying Power, including 16 children and 8 women, many of them members of the same families. Moreover, Israel continued its military attacks on Sunday and today killing another 17 Palestinians, including another six children and one woman. A shocking indication of the indiscriminate, excessive and lethal force being used by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population is the total number of children killed in just three days, 22 children, in addition to other innocent civilians killed by the occupying forces.

Among the innocent children killed by the Israeli occupying forces during the three-day Israeli military rampage were Abdallah Nabeel Abed Rabbou, age 4, Abdel Ra'ouf Abdel Kareem Odeh, age 10, Nirmeen Ra'ed Ali Abu Saif, age 12, Iyad Mohammed Abu Shibak, age 14, Jackleen Mohammad Abu Shibak, age 16, Mahmoud Bassam Obaid, age 15, Hassan Rashad Safi, age 16, Ghada Al-Abed Saleh, age 16, Waheed Saleh, age 16, Ahmad Al-Batsh, age 16, Samah Zidan Asaliyya, age 17, Na'el Zuhair Abu Awn, age 17, Abdel Raheem Ahmad Saleh, age 17, Sari Abu Obaid, age 18, Ahmad Abu Salama, age 16, and Mohammad Abu Hajar, age 17.

As we stated at the Security Council's emergency meeting and reiterate once more, and will continue to state: There is no justification whatsoever for the killing of innocent children and their mothers. We reiterate that when the slaughter of innocent children and women has become acceptable or is somehow justified under

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the pretext of promoting security or "counter-terror", we know for certain that we have sunken into the dark abyss, where there is a total absence of the law, absence of logic or reason, absence of morality, absence of conscience and absence of humanity.

International humanitarian law and human rights law were created for the purpose of protecting human life and dignity everywhere and preventing such reckless and condemnable abandon of morality and conscience. Regrettably, however, the occupying Power has never respected international law and continues to commit systematic violations and grave breaches of the law. The lethal military assaults carried out by the occupying forces by warplane and helicopter missile strikes and tank shelling and gunfire by troops on the ground have caused massive human carnage and widespread destruction of property in the area and the entire civilian population remains in a state of fear, panic and trauma. Emergency rescue personnel are still sifting through the rubble of destroyed homes, searching for bodies amid the charred flesh and scattered limbs left behind by the Israeli attacks. All of this is being endured by the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, in addition to their continuing imprisonment by the occupying Power, which continues its siege of the Territory and continues to obstruct the access of the people to vital humanitarian aid and supplies and necessary fuel.

The enormity of these crimes being committed by Israel against the Palestinian people cannot be denied, and the many short and long-term consequences on the ground are harrowing, as is the impact of these negative developments on the peace process. Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable for such grave breaches of the law and cannot continue to be allowed to act with such flagrant and vicious impunity. In this regard, we echo the call made by the Secretary-General before the Security Council on 1 March 2008 for incidents in which civilians have been killed or injured to be investigated and accountability to be ensured.

Moreover, we reiterate our call upon the international community, including the Security Council, to act immediately to help to bring about a cessation of all violence and hostilities and ensure respect for international law. The Council cannot continue to remain on the sidelines as the conflict escalates with the fierce refueling of the cycle of violence and the continued steep deterioration of the humanitarian situation on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Tangible measures must be taken to address this crisis and to avert its further dangerous decline; to aid the Palestinian civilian population, including by providing them with the necessary protection and assistance to help them cope with the humanitarian crisis they are facing; and to promote the calm needed to help the parties resume peace process negotiations towards ultimately ending this tragic and prolonged conflict that has destroyed and claimed far too many lives.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 310 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 1 March 2008 (A/ES-10/413-S/2008/144), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, I regret to inform you that, since my last letter to you, 38 more Palestinians are reported to have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 5,103 people. (The names of the martyrs killed by the occupying Power from 29 February to 3 March 2008 are included in the annex to the present letter.)

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer

Annex to the identical letters dated 3 March 2008 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem* (from Friday, 29 February 2008 to Monday, 3 March 2008)

Friday, 29 February 2008

1. Mohammad Shamiyya
2. Khalil Ahel
3. Alaa' Al-Bornou (17)
4. Fatma Al-Qar'aawi

Saturday, 1 March 2008

5. Jackleen Mohammad Abu Shibak (16)
6. Iyad Mohammad Abu Shibak (14)
7. Bassam Mohammad Obaid
8. Mahmoud Bassam Obaid (15)
9. Hamza Mohammad Al-Jamal
10. Hassan Rashad Safi (16)
11. Abdallah Abu Sho'aira
12. Mohammad Hani Al-Mabhouh (18)
13. Ghada Al-Abed Saleh (16)
14. Hamada Al-Abed Saleh
15. Mosleh Mohammad Mosleh
16. Mosleh Mohammad Abu Ali
17. Abdallah Nabeel Abed Rabbou (4)
18. Mostafa Sa'eed Abu Jalala
19. Mostafa Saleh Zaghloul
20. Abdel Rahman Mohammad Shihab
21. Iyad Abdel Kareem Al-Ashram
22. Abdel Hameed Hamed Hamada
23. Ibrahim Shaa'ban Al-Zain
24. Sa'eed Al-Hasheem
25. Ahmad Al-Batsh (16)

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 5,103.

26. Mo'tasim Faraj Abed Rabbou
27. Thabet Fat'hi Junaid
28. Mahmoud Abdel Mo'ti Saleem
29. Hussain Sami Al-Batsh
30. Tal'aat Dardona
31. Samah Zidan Asaliyya (17)
32. Salwa Zidan Asaliyya
33. Mahmoud Faraj Asaliyya
34. Jihad Abu Haleel
35. Sa'ed Al-Dabbour
36. Abdel Ra'ouf Abdel Kareem Odeh (10)
37. Na'el Zuhair Abu Awn (17)
38. Yasser Ismail Abu Odeh
39. Hassan Kamal
40. Tamer Wishah
41. Mahmoud Monzer Rayyan
42. Ahmad Rayyan
43. Ali Jabr Al-Kitnani
44. Mahmoud Na'eem Al-Attar
45. Abdel Mo'ti Saa'd Ahad
46. Abdel Rahman Attallah
47. So'ad Attallah
48. Khaled Abdel Rahman Attallah
49. Ibrahim Abdel Rahman Attallah
50. Rajaa' Abdel Rahman Attallah
51. Ibtissam Abdel Rahman Attallah
52. Nirmeen Ra'ed Ali Abu Saif (12)
53. Ahmad Abdel Rahman Saleh
54. Mohammad Abdel Qader Aqilan
55. Muhannad Omar Al-Anshasi
56. Bilal Al-Jammal
57. Raa'fat Abdel Aziz Hamad
58. Hassan Ibrahim Abu Al-Naja
59. Sadeq Youssef Al-Baleeshi
60. Sameer Hamad Asfour
61. Mohammad Omar Abu Ni'ma

62. Emad Ibrahim Al-Tallaa'
63. Subhi Mofeed Awadallah
64. Abdel Kareem Hosni Al-Aww
65. Mahmoud Honaidaq (16)
66. Waheed Saleh (16)
67. Mohammad Abdel Mo'ti Saleem
68. Mostafa Nasser Mannoun
69. Sultan Al-Zain
70. Sari Abu Obaid (18)
71. Khaled Abu Eiada
72. Hamada Al-Abed Saleh
73. Abdel Raheem Ahmad Saleh (17)
74. Mohammad Zaqqout

Sunday, 2 March 2008

75. Khalil Ezz El-Din
76. Loai Jamal Abed Rabbou
77. Mahmoud Bahar (14)
78. Youssef Mohammad Madi Abu Warda
79. Wisam Fayez Abde Rabbou
80. Mahmoud Abdel Khaleq Abu Eita
81. Mahmoud Mohammad Al-Mosalma (13)
82. Na'eem Abdallah Abu Al-Hosni
83. Ra'ed Junaid
84. Ramzi Khwaiter

Monday, 3 March 2008

85. Mohammad Saleh Shreita (18)
86. Ghassan Abed Rabbou
87. Aref Deghmesh
88. Waleed Abu Youssef
89. Ahmad Na'eem Abu Salama (16)
90. Mohammad Abu Hajar (17)
91. Hassan Ziyada Abu Jasser (18)